CBC FIFTH ESTATE

RUBY REEL 2

SYNC

You'll see that hat start to move now. That's Lee Oswald dark-haired, short.

Clarkson: A NEW YORK MOBSTER COMMENTED AFTER THE ASSASSINATION THAT THE JOB RUBY DID BORE ALL THE EARMARKS OF A CONTRACT KILLING. THE PROFESSIONAL SHOOTER WALKS RIGHT UP TO THE VICTIM, EXTENDS THE FOREARM STIFF INTO THE VICTIM'S MID SECTION, THEN FIRES POINT BLANK. OSWALD DIED WITHIN HALF AN HOUR, LEVER REGAINING CONSCIOUSNESS. AND RUBY WAS SUPPOSED TO BE JUST ANOTHER LONE NUT. LIKE OSWALD THIS LONE NUT JUST HAPPENED TO HAVE CUBAN CONNECTIONS. PETER DALE SCOTT HAS INVESTIGATED RUBY'S BACKGROUND METICULOUSLY.

Peter Dale Scott: Ruby had the highest level connections with the Chicago organized crime scene. The same people who owned casinos down in Havana. And this goes back to when he was a young boy running messages personnally for Al Capone, right down the 1963 when the Warren Commission supeonaed his phone records. We see there a pattern of high level connections across the country including at least one of Ruby's Old friends from Chicago who had become one of the top mafia hitman in the nation. What Ruby liked to do was be a go-between between the police on one hand, organized crime on the other. This goes back to 1950 when Ruby, who was known

then as Sparky contacted this office and this Lawyer, Luis Kutner, who has him own good connections to both criminal and political elements in Chicago, to offer some kind of deal with the senate committee that was looking into organized crime.

One day uh that uh....

Lawyer, Luis Kutner: He said this is Sparky. Yeah. He said um I'm in Dallas. Yeah. He said um I want to talk to the senator, Kefauver. I said why. I got things to tell him. But I want to make a deal. I don't want him to come into Dallas. Bedause he wanted to make sure that he could make a deal in advance, not to have the committee go down to Dallas, Texas. I say it again and I saythis with positive conviction that Jack Ruby, or Sparky Rubenstein was totally incapable of that kind of an aggressive deicison and doing it so openly and so deliberately.

YOU KNEW JACK RUBY. WHY DID HE KILL OSWALD?

Kutner: I would say enormous pressure, had to be enormous pressure. But if he did this job they would stand by him and get him out of his mess. That is a reasonable considered and informed conclusion. I could be in many schools of thought but he was not the man to do it on him own initiative.

THE CAROUSEL CLUB. RUBY'S STRIP JOINT. A STRIPPER SAID THAT RUBY HAD BEATEN MANY OF THEM UP. PUBLISHER RAY ZAUBER:

Zauber: Ruby was a man of brute physical strength. He liked to say that Jack Ruby was a man who had good connections in the police

department, I know all theboys by name and uh

P.D.S.. He would have off-duty policemen working in his club?

Zauber: He did.

Well...

Zauber: This I know for sure.

And on a regular basis.

On a regular basis.

REPORTERS SETH KANTOR HAD LIVED IN DALLAS FOR TEN YEARS AND KNEW RUBY. HE RETURNED TO COVER PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S VISIT TO TEXAS AND WAS THERE WHEN JACK RUBY SHOT OSWALD. HE'S JUST COMPLETED A BIOGRAPHY OF RUBY.

Well of course in uh in my digging since then I've discovered that Jack Ruby dealt with the police on all levels. Uh um, almost in a secretive way. As an informer. Uh he dealt as we know in 1959 with the FBI federally. He dealt with the Dallas police in Texas. He also had a meeting shortly before the Kennedy Assassination with two detectives from Chicago, from the Chicago Police force.

P.D.S. Does that make Ruby sort of a connection between police on the one hand and the mob on the other if he's dealing with people...

Kantot: I think that's true. I think those were the levels he liked to deal with where he could he could go from one side to the other and trade information,

Kantor: It enhanced his position with both.

P.D.S. Now one question, which has often come up about the police was how did Ruby get into the basement on November 24th to shoot Oswald. Do you think the police helped him?

Kantor: Yes I do. I think there was a a definite plan which envolved over the weekend.

P.D.A. Of course but the usually objection to this kind of theory is that how could Ruby have known at what time Oswald was going to be brought down from upstairs.

Kantor: I think that the Warren Commission went about this in the wrong way. I think the question really was that once Ruby got in it became a signal to bring Oswald down.

So you're suggesting that were specific policemen who were collaborating with Ruby to make sure...

Kantor: I don't say that the entire 1100 members Dallas police force was involved by any means. I think there was a selective few people who were involved.

Reporter: (1964) While being taken back to his cell today reporters tried to talk with Ruby. How's it going Jack?

Ruby: I'm not supposed to be...I'm supposed to be in.....I can't answer your questions.

I'm supposed to be insane. I can't answer you intelligently.

WHEN THE WARREN COMMISSION CAME TO DALLAS JACK RUBY PLEADED TO BE MOVED FROM THE DALLAS JAIL TO WASHINGTON. DO THAT HE SAID AND I THINK I CAN PUT IT ALL TOGETHER FOR YOU. UNTIL HIS DEATH FROM CANCER IN 1967 RUBY MAINTAINED HE WAS PART OF A LARGER CONSPIRACY. SENATOR RICHARD SCHWEIKER:

OUR REPORT SAYS very clearly that there was a coverup by the senior officials of the FBI and CIA. I take it one step further and I, my own personal opinion, is that there has to be a coverup one step higher, in the White House itself. So I frankly believe that for reasons peculiar to each agency and division they wanted to cover up some aspect that was embarrassing to them. There was a predisposition to cover up the whole Cuban connection and I really believe the Cuban connection is the key.

IN MIAMI THIS SECTION IS KNOWN AS LITTLE HAVANA. HALF A MILLION CUBANS MAKE THIS THEIR HOME. IN THIS COMMUNITY ARE DOZENS OF CUBANS EXILE ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CURRENT CUBAN REGIME. MANY OF THESE GROUPS ARE BACKED OR INFILTRATED BY AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES. BOTH THE MAFIA AND THE CIA HAVE TRAINED AND SUPPLIED EXILES IN THEIR ANTI-CASTRO RAIDS. ONE SUCH BRIGADE WAS TRAINED BY JERRY PATRICK HEMMING A SIX FOOT SEVEN INCH MERCENARY WHO WAS A DOUBLE AGENT IN PRE REVOLUTIONARY CUBA, RUNNING GUNS TO CASTRO'S REBEL FORCES. HE RECALLS THOSE DAYS.

HEMMING: The mob did supply weapons to Castro.

WELL I SUPPOSE AT THAT POINT THE MAFIA DID NOT KNOW WHAT WAY CASTRO WOULD GO OR WHAT WOULD HAPPEN?

HEMMING: They weren't going to take any chances now were they? They're not going to lose their casinos and their investments there because some stranger from the hills suddenly scared all the corrupt people out of Havana and they're going to deal with new strangers, no contact? They're not organized that way.

THEY WANTED.....

They are very sharp businessmen.

SO THEY WANTED TO HEDGE THEIR BETS IN OTHER WORDS?

Always.

My name is Frank Sturgess. I was born Frank Angelo Fiorini. I am an American, very proud of it. I don't agree with the policy of the United States government because they want detente with the Communists and I am a very strong anti-Communist.

FRANK STURGIS WAS ONE OF THE WATERGATE BURGLARS. IN HIS LONG AND VARIED CAREER, HE'S BEEN COMFORTABLE WITH BOTH THE SYNDICATE AND THE CIA. WHEN THE SYNDICATE AND THE CIA RAN GUNS TO CASTRO STURGIS WAS WITH THEM. WHEN THE SYNDICATE AND THE CIA DECIDED TO KILL CASTRO, FRANK STURGIS WAS STILL WITH THEM.

The only connection I had with anybody was naturally with the um man who recruited me, to spy for the United States government. And naturally that was CIA. I was in charge of all the gambling. casinos in Cuba for the Cuban government. Fidel told me at

a staff's officer's meeting, not just myself but he told a number of us uh the top commanders on the general staff that he was going to run them damn racketeers out of Cuba. When I came across the people that I knew had businesses, whether they were British, Canadian, American uh and so forth I'd notify them that Fidel was going to nationalize uh the industry.

SANTO TRAFFICANTE CONTROLLED HAVANA'S LUCRATIVE NARCOTICS SMUGGLING AND GAMBLING OPERATIONS FOR THE MOB. HE WAS JAILED BY CASTRO IN THE SUMMER OF 1959. AT THE SAME TIME JACK RUBY VISITED CUBA, FINANCED BY ONE OF TRAFICANT'S HIRED HANDS.

Did you ever tell Santos TRAFICANT THAT THE CASINOS WERE GOING TO BE CLOSED DOWN?

Sturgis: I told a number of people there, including Santos Traficante that Castro wasgoing to nationalize all American business interests.

ADrian Clarkson: THE FONTAINEBLEU HOTEL, MIAMI BEACH. HERE IN 1962 A SENIOR OFFICER OF THE CIA HAD A SECRET RENDEZ VOUS WITH TWO MEN. THE MEN WERE SANTOS TRAFICANTE AND JOHNNY ROSELLI, TWO OF THE MOST POWERFUL MAFIA CHIEFTAINS IN THE UNITED STATES. THEY LAUGHED, HAD A FEW DRINKS FOR BY NOW THEY WERE COMRADES IN ARMS. THIS SENIOR OFFICER OF AN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AGENCY HAD RECRUITED THE CRIME SYNDICATE IN A MURDEROUS CABAL. THE CIA MAN TOLD TRAFICANTE AND ROSELLI HOW HE WOULD SUPPLY THEM WITH HIGH POWERED RIFLES WITH TELESCOPIC LENSES TO KILL THE PRESIDENT OF CUBA.

SYNDICATED WASHINGTON COMMUNIST JACK ANDERSON.

I developed a relationship with uh uh John Roselli. He was one of the killers. He was in fact in charge of the project. He was a mafia mobster. And I developed a very slow relationship with him. He got to trust me and he began to talk to me. According to Roselli, Jack Ruby had connections with the Havana underworld and other evidence has come to light since that time that uh he knew Traficante personally. To the best of my recollection, Roselli also told me that Traficante was personally acquainted with Ruby. They did indicate thatum Jack Ruby was someone that the Havana underworld could manipulate.

THIS PLACE IS SACRED TO MIAMI'S CUBAN EXILE COMMUNITY. IT COMMEMORATES THE BAYO DE COCHINOS THE BAY OF PIGS. THERE A BRIGADE OF CUBAN EXILES THICK WITH GUERRILLAS, GUNRUNNERS AND MAFIA WERE BLOODED ON THE CUBAN COAST. THEIR INMASIONS WAS A DISASTROUS FAILURE. AND IN THEIR HUMILIATION THE FAIIED INVADERS HUNTED FOR A SCAPEGOAT. SOME SAID THAT THEIR SEARCH LED DIRECTLY TO THE MURDER OF JOHN F. KENNEDY.

Frank Sturgiss: I disliked Kennedy because of the betrayal that he uh was involved in the Bay of Pigs. He did betray uh my friends and cause many of them to be killed so naturally I had no love for him. I had none whatsoever when he was alive and I still don't have any love for him even though he's dead.

Gerry Patrick Hemmings: I'd been to the White House earlier that year in March. I was in the east wing of the White House having an interview

with uh military aide to the President General Clifton. I'd been to the Pentagon, the State department, what have you earlier in 1963. I'd done quite a bit of travelling. Had new contacts, dealt with very prominent people and in travelling I heard constant comments as to a solution to the Kennedy problem. It got very serious as to why uh waste time in Cuba. Why risk lives. The whole problem is in the White House. That should be taken care of.

Adrienne ClarksoN: DID SOMEONE WALK IN WITH A CASE OF MONEY AND ASK YOU TO KILL JOHN KENNEDY?

Hemmings: Well only one time was there money on the table. All other times we got out of the conversation and out of the meeting gracefully enough to avoid discussing any figures. Obviously these people had uh they'd been recommended to us and we'd been recommended to them and now suddenly we were discovering why these recommendations had been made and why these introductions had been made.

A. Clarkson: WHAT KINDS OF TECHNIQUES WERE DISCUSSED?

Hemmings: Just proper standard techniques.

A. Clarkson: SUCH AS?

Hemmings: Sniper's techniques, explosive techniques. Remote control explosive devices. Shooters.

A. Clarkson: DO YOU THINK NUMBER OF DIFFERENT GROUPS WERE PUTTING OUT A

CONTRACT ON KENNEDY'S LIFE?

Hemmings: That was the feeling we had before Daley Plaza. My name was thrown into the mill and into the Warren Commission right off the bat. I was prime shooter. My crew was the only capable team in the whole United States of America. This was from day one this was pushed. And it upset me to a great degree and I've made it a point to find out who did what who didn't do what in the last 14 years. I've answered a lot of questions for myself.

A. Clarkson: ANSWER ME ONE. WHO DID IT? WHO DID THE JOB?

Hemmings: I know personnally of more than one group or individual that collected money and they ripped them off. They didn't do the job. They took credit for it. Well they only, they'd taken money beforehand. Stroke of luck for them.

A. Clarkson: IN 1975 AN OIL DRUM WAS FOUND FLOATING IN MIAMI BAY. INSIDE POLICE FOUND THE MUTILATED BODY OF JOHNNY ROSELLI, THE SYNDICATE BOSS WHO HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN THE CIA MAFIA PLOTS. HOUSE INVESTIGATORS BELIEVE THAT HIS EXECUTION MADE ONE MORE BODY IN THE BLOODY TRAIL LEADING BACK TO DALLAS. ONE MORE MURDER IN THE CHAIN WHICH BEGAN WHEN JACK RUBY SILENCED LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

COLONEL FLETCHER PROUTY:

80 to 100 or more people who have died unnatural deaths since Kennedy died, more of less because they were on the threshold of telling another part of the story without putting the finger on any one of them or saying that any one of them was the man that was the most important man behind the assassination. However, to see these 80 90 or 100 people killed you've got to believe there's something going on thatcauses these things to happen even as recently. as a few months ago. Today the biggest crime is the crime of the coverup. Think of how carefully the coverup has been put on from the beginning. And were we are now 13 years lateraand there is still a coverup of the death of President Kennedy. That takes power. You can't - a man like Castro, a man like Kruschev, somebody outside or a man, one 24 year old boy Oswald couldn't have killed the President and then manipulated this coverup which has been running all these years?

A. Clarkson: WAS IT ALL PART OF SOME KIND OF GIANT CONSPIRACY SOME KIND OF MASTER PLAN?

Peter Dale Scott: Oh no I wouldn't say that. Many people um covered up for very benign reasons starting with uh Justice Warren who was told that if he didn't serve on the Warren Commission there was a risk of World

War III. I think that that was true. I think that there were many false trails linking Oswald to foreign powers and it was important, from - for the best of reasons to to stop those stories. But we can also see some people whose motives were not benign, who were lying in a way to increase the chances of war rather than to diminish them. And the job of the house committee I think is to pick out those people who covered up, whose motives were malevolent, rather than beneficial.

A. Clarkson: WILL WE FIND OUT PETER THE TRUTH IN OUR LIFETIME?

Well we'll certainly learn more and more because the longer this goes on the bigger the cove up becomes and the bigger it becomes the more obvious it becomes. And one of the really heartening things for me has to be seen that young people who don't really remember the assassination, are very involved in the case because they have seen the cove-up and it's becoming obvious to them, So I think the's a big drama coming in the future of our if you light forces of light and forces of darkness because it's not going to go away by itself. People have hoped in Washington they could last out this trom and the longer they wait the bigger the pressures become to re open it. So, I think

fairly soon now we're going to see uh bigger pressures than we'v been up to now for really serious reopening of the case and I hope that the house committee will be able to respond to these pressures.